(d) if so, whether Government have approved such arrangement between USSR and private organisations?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Oil spill in the Arabian Sea by MV Tanker Puppy

1873. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M.V. Tanker Puppy, which spilled 4000 tonnes furnace oil in the Arabian Sea and failed to announce the spill soon after collision with a British ship, was allowed to sail away from a spot close to the Bombay coast without any payment of guarantee; if so, what are the reasons therefore; what was damage due to slick;

(b) whether any special facilities were given to the tanker to continue its journey to Oman; if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what would be the cost of tackling the spill problem that India would have to bear; and

(d) why the Authorities did not siphon off the remaining oil from ship's tankes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir, However, Director General of Shipping sent legal notices to the Master of the vessel and her managing agents holding them liable for any damage caused on account of the oil spilled by the vessel. Subsequently, the protection and Indemnity Club which porvided oil pollution risk cover to the vessel, has made an offer of guarantee of upto US $ 250,000 for the two tonnes of oil spilled while the vessel was at anchorage off Bombay. The Club has assured provision of additional guarantee, should the liability of the owners of veseel, for any further pollution be established.

(b) No facilities were given by Government or its agencies.

(c) This is yet to be assessed.

(d) A no leakage of oil was reported from the intact tankes, the question of siphoning off the remaining oil did not arise.

Museum to keep the used Saloon of Rabindranath

1874. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE:
SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways have constructed a museum to keep the used Saloon of Rabindranath in the year 1986;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Railways is not interested to look after and maintain the museum and saloon now; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir. The Railways constructed a shed for housing the saloon of Rabindranath donated to Vishwabharti University, Bolpur.

(b) and (c) The Railways have donated the saloon and constructed the building with the clear understanding that the upkeep, maintenance and manning would be the responsibility of Vishwabharti. Railways are willing to provide assistance on usual terms as and when required.